

**On a new nematode, *Paracucullanelus gomtiai* n. sp. (Cucullanidae
Cobbold, 1864 : Nematoda) from a fresh water fish,
*Wallagonia attu***

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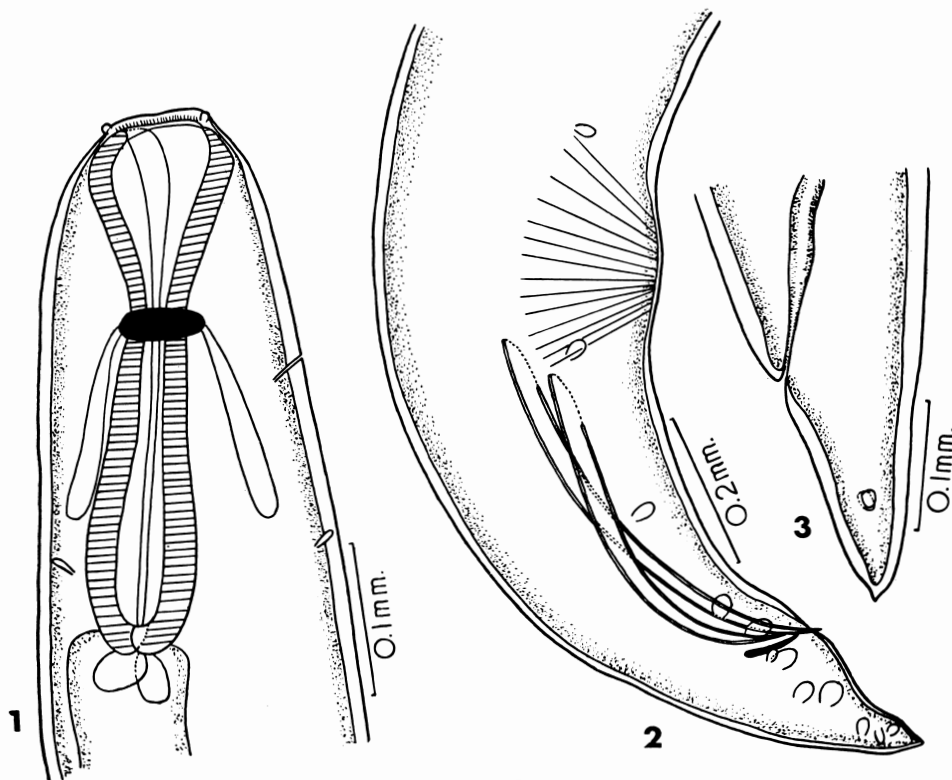
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***Paracucullanelus gomtiai*
n. sp. (Figs. 1-3)**

Only two specimens, one male and one female were collected from the intestine of a fresh water fish, *Wallagonia attu* (Bloch) from river Gomati at Lucknow.

Description : Body elongated, cylindrical,

medium sized. Anterior extremity not bent dorsally. Mouth opening straight forward, provided with short transverse cuticular ridge. Oesophagus muscular lacking a glandular portion, club-shaped and dilated anteriorly to form a pseudobuccal capsule. Intestinal caecum absent. Cephalic glands present. Cuticle finely striated transversely, striations,



Figs. 1-3 *Paracucullanelus gomtiai* n. sp.
Fig. 1 Anterior region of male. Lateral view.
Fig. 2 Male tail. Lateral view.
Fig. 3 Female tail. Lateral view.

Body elongated, cylindrical, 0.003 to 0.005 mm apart in male and 0.004 to 0.007 mm apart in female.

Male: Body 3.78 mm long, 0.38 mm wide. Head 0.13 mm in diameter. Cervical papillae at 0.58 mm from anterior end. Anterior pseudobuccal capsule 0.19 mm long, 0.18 mm wide; posterior glandular oesophagus 0.51 mm long, 0.15 mm wide. Entire oesophagus 0.70 mm long. Nerve ring at 0.25 mm and excretory pore 0.35 mm from anterior end. Caudal alae well developed. Tail 0.19 mm long. Twelve pairs of anal papillae of which five pairs preanal, two pairs adanal and five pairs postanal. Of preanals, one pair anterior to preanal sucker, next two pairs equidistantly placed while last two pairs lie close together. Of postanals, there are two groups of which anterior group has two pairs while posterior one comprises three pairs. Spicules subequal, similar, broad anteriorly while sharply pointed posteriorly; right 0.49 mm long, left 0.56 mm long. Preanal sucker muscular, spindle-shaped, 0.12 mm long, at 0.46 mm from anus.

Female: Body 3.98 mm long, 0.42 mm wide. Head 0.14 mm in diameter. Cervical papillae at 0.51 mm from anterior end. Anterior pseudobuccal capsule 0.19 mm long, 0.16 mm wide; posterior glandular oesophagus 0.57 mm long, 0.13 mm wide. Entire oesophagus 0.76 mm long. Nerve ring at 0.29 mm and excretory pore 0.40 mm from anterior end. Tail with two lateral processes, 0.18 mm long. Vulva postequatorial, at 2.11 mm from anterior end. Uterine branches opposed. Eggs 0.038 to 0.065 mm long, 0.028 to 0.039 mm wide.

Host: *Wallagonia attu* (Bloch)

Location: Intestine

Locality: Lucknow.

Discussion

Due to the possession of anterior extremity

not bent dorsally, in the absence of intestinal caecum and in having a pair of cephalic glands, the present form is referred to the genus *Paracucullanelus* Agrawal, 1965. The genotype *P. indica* Agrawal, 1965 from a fresh water fish *Rita rita* is the only form described so far under the genus *Paracucullanelus*. The new form differs from it in having male specimens much smaller, 3.78 mm long instead of 6.83 to 9.21 mm. long, in having five pairs of preanal, two pairs adanal and five pairs of postanal papillae instead of four pairs of preanal, one pair of adanal and six pairs of postanal papillae and in having spicules unequal instead of equal. Accordingly the present form is regarded as new with the specific name *P. gontiaii* n. sp.

Abstract

Paracucullanelus gontiaii n. sp. from a fresh water fish, *Wallagonia attu* (Boch) has been described from Lucknow.

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Paratype and holotype specimens will be deposited in Prof. G. S. Thapar's Helminthological Collection, Lucknow, U. P.; India.

Literature cited

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